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# TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS

AUGUST 2014 – AUGUST 2017

\$25.5 MILLION

## OVERVIEW

The Technical Assistance to the Ministry of Public Works (TA-MoPW) project is a component of USAID's Road Sector Sustainability Program, which assists the Afghan government in its transition to sustainable management of the country's road network.

The Road Sector Sustainability Program also assists the Afghan government to establish new institutions to manage the road network in Afghanistan in a sustainable and efficient manner.

The new institutions are:

- A semi-autonomous Road Authority (RA) to manage road maintenance and development.
- A semi-autonomous Road Fund (RF) to provide sustainable financing; and
- A Transportation Institute (TI) to train and to build the capacity of Afghan professionals to plan, analyze, and manage the road sector.

The planning, building, and maintaining of transportation infrastructure is essential to Afghanistan's continued transition to self-reliance, economic growth, and its integration into the regional economy. Accordingly, through its TA-MoPW project, USAID provides the ministry the technical knowledge and skills needed to strengthen operations and maintenance capacity, and to improve transportation infrastructure management.

Other key components of USAID's Road Sector Sustainability Program are emergency road repair capacity building for the Ministry staff and the three new institutions, and Operation and Maintenance assistance to the Ministry through the Afghanistan Infrastructure Trust Fund.

## **CURRENT ACTIVITIES**

- Assess the organizational operations, practices, and management of the Ministry;
- Develop a five-year short-term interim funding plan and a ten-year prioritized long-term funding plan for road maintenance;
- Conduct in-depth studies and recommend institutional models for the RA, RF, and TI based on international best practices and keeping the Afghan context in mind;
- Design organizational structures for the newly established institutions (the RA, RF, and TI), and develop transition plans for those and the Ministry;
- Assist the Ministry in drafting new legislation to bring about necessary reforms.

## **EXPECTED RESULTS**

- Build institutional structures and secure parliamentary approval for the creation of new road reform institutions - Afghan Road Authority, Road Fund, and Transportation Institute.
- Establish a self-sustaining, national road operation and maintenance system—supported by revenues, managed through the Road Fund, and distributed to the Road Authority.
- Create a Transportation Institute that establishes quality control guidelines based on international codes and best practices, issues quality control inspection and monitoring procedures, and provides ongoing training for engineers and construction managers.

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